

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ANKARA 03701 150745Z

21

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01

NEA-14 FEA-02 INT-08 SCI-06 COME-00 TRSE-00 EB-11

DLOS-07 IO-14 COA-02 SAJ-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 ACDA-19

DRC-01 /188 W

----- 023612

P R 141341Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4095

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

SECDEF WASHDC

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

EUCOM

CINCUSAFE

USDOCOSOUTH

USCINCEUR/ECJ-2

CINCUSAREUR

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSNAVEUR

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

S E C R E T ANKARA 3701

EUCOM FOR POLAD AND J-2

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, TU, GR

SUBJECT: TURKISH-GREEK DISPUTE OVER AEGEAN

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REF: STATE 097455 (NOTAL)

1. WE CONCUR WITH REFTEL'S ANALYSIS OF LIKELIHOOD THAT PRESENT COURSES OF GREECE AND TURKEY MAY LEAD TO MILITARY CONFRONTATION. IN RECENT CONTACTS, WE HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED BY COMBATIVENESS AND TRUCULENCE DISPLAYED BY SENIOR GOT OFFICIALS REGARDING PROBLEMS WITH GREECE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT KEY TURKISH OFFICIALS BELIEVE, AS SOME GREEKS REPORTEDLY DO, THAT ARMED CLASH WORTH RISKING BECAUSE U.S. AND OTHER NATO ALLIES WOULD DIPLOMATICALLY INTERVENE EFFECTIVELY AND QUICKLY.

2. ASSUMING NO CONFRONTATION RESULTS FROM PLANNED TURKISH FIRING EXERCISE IN AEGEAN JUNE 2 (ANKARA 3662), U.S. AND OTHER NATO PARTNERS SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR POSSIBLE CRISIS IN LATE JUNE-EARLY JULY WHEN MGMS. VESSEL UNDER CONTRACT TO TURKEY EXPECTED TO BEGIN OIL EXPLORATION (ANKARA 3550), SINCE, AS REFTEL NOTES, GREEK NAVY REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN ORDERED TO STOP SUCH EXPLORATION. WE BELIEVE DEPARTMENT SHOULD WARN ALL TMS. CONTRACTORS, AND SPECIFICALLY GEOPHYSICAL SERVICES INC., OF RISK OF OPERATING UNDER CONTRACT TO EITHER GOG OR GOT IN AREAS UNDER DISPUTE - AT LEAST FOR SO LONG AS DISPUTE REMAINS IN PRESENT HEATED FORM. POINT SHOULD ALSO BE MADE THAT POTENTIAL DANGER REACHES BEYOND MERE SAFETY OF SHIPS TO POSSIBILITY OF PROVOKING INCIDENT WHICH COULD INVOLVE HOSTILITIES BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. TURKS WILL RESENT OUR WARNING THIS COMPANY, BUT WE WILL BE IN POSITION TO REPLY THAT THIS IS EVENHANDED TREATMENT APPLIED TO BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY.

4. RE PARA 4 REFTEL: FOR SOME TIME EMBASSY HAS USED EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW INTEREST AND CONCERN REGARDING NEED FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, AND AMBASSADOR ON MAY 11 HAMMERED POINT HOME WITH MFA SECGEN (ANKARA 3682 - NOTAL). CHARGE WILL FOLLOW UP DURING AMBASSADOR'S ABSENCE. MACOMBER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, ARMED FORCES, MILITARY EXERCISES, NAVAL SHIPS, AEGEAN SEA  
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**Draft Date:** 14 MAY 1974  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, TU, GR, US  
**To:** STATE  
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